

Roslyn School
GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA
Monday, March 20th, 2023
Virtual Meeting
6:15pm – 7:45pm



Minutes prepared by Vanessa Campbell

Governing Board Members Present

Suzanne Wexler (Chair)
Andrew Potter (Parent)
Meaghan Daniel (Parent)
Daniel Torchinsky (Parent)
Vanessa Campbell (RGB Secretary, Alternate)
Daniel Khazzam (Parent)
Curtis Brissette (Alternate)

Julie Marcus (Teacher)
Mya Sheaves-Blair- (Community Rep)
Jonathan Kruidbos (Community Rep)
Jennifer (Community Rep)
Jinan Paquin (Teacher)
Amanda Garrido (Specialist sub)
Kathleen Laranjeiro (Teacher)

Regrets

Kori Betsalel (Alternate)
Jo-Ann Wong (Parent)
Stephanie Iannelli (Teacher)
Noah Trister (Teacher)
Diane Biard-Goble (Teacher)
Karaline Vlahopoulos (Teacher)
Prosanto Chaudhury (Parent)
Judy Kleinman (Teacher)
Amelia Leighton (School Secretary)

Also Present

Joanna Genovezos (Principal)
Mireille Tehbelian (Vice-Principal)

Annick Davies & Debbie Stock (HandS co-chairs) – Were absent due to not receiving the invitation.

Start meeting 6:16pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda (2 minutes) (For Approval)

Motion to adopt with a change of date to March 20th, April 17 was supposed to be next meeting. Motioned by Andrew P. Seconded by Amanda. All in favor.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2 minutes)

3.1 Adoption of Minutes from GB Meeting on Mon Feb 20, 2023 (For Approval)

Motion to adopt minutes from GB Meeting on Feb 20, 2023 by Andrew P, Daniel K seconded. All in favor

4. First Question Period (2 minutes)

None

5. Business Arising from Last Meeting (10 minutes)

5.1 Teachers on leave: Parent communication and current substitutes

Joanna communicates information whenever they have something new to update. All teachers on leave have been replaced with a regular replacement i.e. Grades 4 and 1. All this has been communicated to the parents.

A parent recommends more update communications to avoid “broken telephone” from students/speculations. I.e. every two weeks.

Administration want to avoid communications that are not accurate/updated in case of last minute changes, but will send updates to affected classrooms when needed.

5.2 Playground fundraiser update and bamboo cutlery

Paint night has been cancelled, schedule conflicting with grad committee fundraiser which just closed.

HandS has donated their website for the sale of the bamboo cutlery, just need to upload the pictures and information.

5.3 Outdoor student fundraiser activity

Fundraiser- went to speak to the teachers to have an outdoor play activity with the students. Staff council surveyed the teachers, they do not want to be in charge of this activity. So, the answer at this time is no.

Instead, will use parent speaker night to solicit donations.

Potentially also June 1 a lot of parents will be present in the evening at the school.

Also hoping the school board will be able to assist with obtaining grants.

Someone is coming this week to provide quotes for the playground structure.

6. Community Representatives Report (5 minutes)

Jonathan K (YMCA)- wrapping up and starting to focus on the summer daycamp. Originally trying to get a week of camp donated for the auction (grad), but wasn't able to do so.

Before/after and ped day programs have been going well and showing signs of growth.

Asked about potential renovations at school this summer, the person in charge of the project is soliciting bids for the project. They have started working at night/weekends to

start and the plan is to continue in the summer (probable, not confirmed). Last summer YMCA was able to use the Roslyn space in the summer as needed.

Mya (Greene Center)- Opening day camp registration this week, afterschool is going well.

Jennifer (Tyndale)- Opening day camp registration this week, afterschool/weekend/ped day programs going well. Have started a music program.

7. HandS Report (5 minutes)

Not present

8. Teacher's Report (10 minutes)

Kathleen L- had story telling today, finished that. Worked on poems for St-Patrick's day. Started a math project and turning them into comic strips/board games.

Jinan- Just finished body language/drama for storytelling. Still working on winter theme which will be finishing up next week.

Julie Marcus- Grade 2 starting scripts (ie. Little red riding hood, Cinderella), grade 1 will start mystery surprise bag. A student will bring in a surprise object and answer questions about its description.

9. EMSB Parents Committee Report (5 minutes)

Daniel K PC report- there was an open letter that was sent to the minister of education which will be sent by email, otherwise nothing of note. Will potentially send an abridged letter to the parent body.

10. RGB Chair Report

10.1 Parent Speaker update (5 minutes)

Has spoken to the speaker, she will be coming April 20. Doors open 6:15pm, talk starts at 6:30pm. Will be based on her book "Honey I wrecked the kids". The point of the talk is going from a disciplinary culture to an overly feeling culture and how to find boundaries. Will start sending out emails to the parents to ensure a good turnout.

10.2 Parents request prior to teacher-admin calendar setting (5 minutes)

For the calendar to be approved by the RGB, will be done soon in April. Issues arose this year with Jewish holidays and for ped days that are on Fridays/Mondays students are missing gym days. Joanna- Discussed this with staff council and will try to be mindful of other holidays. Will be difficult for the gym classes, will need to consult with the teachers. Potentially have a makeup class once in a while to make up for these class misses.

10.3 2022-2023 Budget Building Process (10 minutes)

Joanna went over the document and discussed priorities and if any changes were made in the current year. None. Believes that everything is still relevant.

All needs addressed, nothing changed. But important to still keep trying so the school board and government is aware of the issues facing the school ie. Children who do not speak English/French, Non-coded students

Parent asks how significant is this document in terms of allocating the budget? Joanna- Hard to answer, hoping someone does read this. Had a meeting of principals last month and most schools feeling the same way/putting down the same information.

Agree to move #4 as it is presented to #1 for the allocation of resource teachers.

Teachers believe having extra resources and smaller classrooms would be helpful.

Also move #2 to #4 (board is paying for renovations).

School psychologist should also be moved up on the priority list.

All changes are made live as being discussed.

Should it be specified which of the budget should be rolled over? Already have some, so why can't it all be rolled over?

10.4 Budget Building Priorities (10 minutes) (Approval)

Motion to accept it as presented (and changed per above)- Moved by Daniel K. Seconded by Kathleen. No nays, No abstention, all in favour. Amended on April 24th, 2023.

11. Reports and New Business

11.1 Principal's and Vice Principal's Report (15 minutes)

Joanna (Principal)- presently working on enrollment report for next year. Presently have 579 for next year.

Will potentially have some split classes for the grades 3-6, because being asked to staff conservatively.

School yard/Nancy- looks like it is going well. She is setting up the yard well, she sets up organized play well. Trying to track instances/issues to see if there are any reductions in the instances/issues.

Next year thinking of having a group of teachers to survey and see how everyone is feeling in the school and areas of improvement.

Storytelling morning- had a lot of students and peers/parents in the audience, first time since Covid. Had 15 students present. The winners were announced by Joanna and the winners will be going to Edinburgh School on April 4 and the EMSB will award prizes.

Westmount Independent feature for Mr. Cohen (brother of Stranger Things producer) who spoke recently at Roslyn.

Mireille (VP)- Before March break had PJ day which was postponed from Xmas one. Had Educazoo come to the school for the younger grades.

Theater group came for the spring recruitment for their play Wizard of Oz.

All wore green for St. Patrick's day.

Parent teacher interviews this week for second term.

Ped day this Friday.

Last week of March (28 and 31st) grade 2 is having a paint activity, a company is coming to the school to do activities.

Grades 3 and 6 will have a virtual presentation "I is for Inclusion"

Rowan Higgins will present to Grades 1 and 2 on her work on Black History.

Grades 5 and 6 students going with Ms. Amanda and Ms. Jessica to science museum field trip.

11.2 Approved lunch suppliers Merenda (5 minutes) (Approval)

Mireille- Merenda and Le Doral both outside food suppliers approved by the EMSB. Also sent information from two other companies (Le Mini Bistro and La Cantine).

Need to motion if going to remain with Merenda for the next school year, complete the contract and then inform the nutrition department of EMSB.

Prices are all comparable.

No concerns noted regarding Merenda (the current provider).

Would be good to obtain more information/samples from la Cantine to further evaluate for next year.

Motion- to continue with Merenda lunch supplier. Moved by Daniel K. Seconded by Kathleen.

Nay- none, Abstain- none, all in favour. Approve to keep Merenda. Amended on April 24th, 2023.

12. Good and Welfare

13. Question Period (2 minutes)

Parent asks about new Roslyn children whose families are from Ukraine. Is there a lot who would need support? Joanna- Hard to answer without the parent's consent. Parent asks- Potentially an ambassador for new parents that are new to Montreal?

Suzanne- Is it possible for the community reps to provide childcare the night of the parent speaker series?

14. Next meeting date: TBD

April 17, 2023

Motion to close the meeting at 7:45pm- Daniel K, seconded by Kathleen L. All in favor.

Joanna Genovezos – Principal

Suzanne Wexler – Governing Board Chair

Date: Monday, April 24th, 2023